

DAVID DUNLOP'S HOME FOR SALE

Coggin Hall, Purchased a Few Years Ago, to Be Placed on the Market

Y. M. C. A. BOARD EXPLAINS

Gives Comprehensive Reasons for the Sale of Their Present Building.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
PETERSBURG, VA., February 22.—Coggin Hall, David Dunlop's handsome country home at Coggin's Point, on James River, is for sale. Forty thousand dollars is asked for the property, which was purchased by Mr. Dunlop a few years ago, and an elegant house erected.

A lengthy statement from the board of directors of the Young Men's Christian Association is published to-day, giving a full report of the association's financial affairs, and a list of the important reasons which have convinced the board that the sale of the building is the wisest course in the present crisis in association matters, and a step forward in the interest of the work. The board announces that it expects to use the fourteen thousand five hundred dollars surplus from the sale, after the payment of the twenty-one thousand dollars' indebtedness, to meet the expenses of a new building, to which it will ask Petersburg citizens to contribute ten thousand dollars, to be paid in two years. It proposes to erect a non-taxable building on Washington Street, at a cost of from fifteen thousand to seventeen thousand dollars, on a lot now being considered, which, it is understood, is the property owned by George L. Moody, located east of St. Joseph's Catholic Church. In addition to the gymnasium, reading room, library, and social auditorium, and other regular equipment, the board emphasizes the advisability of putting in a number of dormitories, which they claim would produce a larger net income for current expenses than could be expected for years to come in the present building. The time and place for the public sale of the building, the question have been changed to Friday, March 23, at the association's hall.

A warrant has been served for the arrest of Jack Newson, the watchman at the Seward Trunk and Bag Company's factory, who shot a young man named George Blankenship last Monday night when Blankenship refused to obey the watchman's order to leave an outhouse on the saw mill lot of the plant. It is thought that Newson will be exonerated. Tinker Ruffin, the negro arrested in Philadelphia for shooting and robbing Warren Brown, postmaster and merchant, at Hebron, Va., was sent on to the grand jury by Justice P. B. Briggs, at District Court yesterday. The crime was committed six years ago, and Ruffin was captured in Philadelphia two weeks ago and there identified by Brown and A. B. Fisher, of this city, Brown's clerk at the time of the crime.

ASKED FOR DAMAGES.

Jury Held That Company Was Not Responsible for Accident.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
BOYDTON, VA., February 22.—The Circuit Court of Mecklenburg has been in session here since Monday. Judge Barkdale has been closely confined on the bench during the last few days of the trial of John Edward Willis, an infant, under fourteen years of age, by &c., vs. the Hub, Spoke and Lumber Company (Inc.), of Chase City, for injuries received by young Willis at the factory of the defendant company. Homes and Barksdale, of Petersburg, and T. H. Thompson, of the defendant company, Willis's counsel, asked for \$2,000 damages. The jury awarded nothing.

Young Willis was employed at the factory, where he was placed at the foot of the machinery which struck the boy in the stomach inflicting a painful wound. Counsel of the defendant company took the ground that their company was not liable for the reason that the Hub, Spoke and Lumber Company in the management of their business, used all reasonable precaution to prevent accidents, and it occurred, when no one was to blame, they could not be held responsible. The jury sustained this view.

Mr. Roy E. Cabell made quite a favorable impression on the bar here, as well as the citizens who met him. This was Mr. Cabell's first visit to this county.

SUBMARINE CRUISER.

Simon Lake's Boat to Cross the Atlantic Without Convoy.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
NEWPORT NEWS, VA., February 22.—The submarine cruiser being built at the shipyard here for Inventor Simon Lake will be put overboard next Monday. There may be a hitch in the programme, however, as the little craft, which is being dragged from the shed under which it was built to the water edge.

There will be no formal ceremony. The cruiser submarine is much larger than the Simon Lake X class, four of which were sold to Russia during the recent war with Japan, and the inventor said that he can make a trip across the Atlantic in his boat without convoy.

Harbinger of Spring.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
FREDERICKSBURG, VA., February 22.—A large number of wild geese have been heard flying over this city, taking their flight to the north, which is regarded by many as indicating that the opening of spring is near at hand.



"old joe" whiskey

a friendly tip

find the right article

stick to it

"old joe" is right—rightly made—rightly aged; give it a test—you'll have no other; thousands insist upon it

full measure—convenient package moderate price—sold everywhere

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ATTEMPT TO BLOW UP FLOYD COURT-HOUSE

Dynamite Explosion Tears Holes Behind Judge's Seat.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
ROANOKE, VA., February 22.—An attempt made last night by unknown parties to blow up Floyd Courthouse with dynamite. The Circuit Court is now sitting, and Judge W. W. Moffett is presiding for the first time. The charge was put off in the rear of the building, and within forty feet of the county jail. A hole about three feet wide was blown out just behind the judge's seat.

Judge Moffett had just granted bail to Fred Hoback, who secured a new trial through the Supreme Court for the killing of John L. Jett, a hotel keeper, over a year ago. He was sentenced to eight years in the State penitentiary, but the verdict of the lower court was set aside. Hoback was a rural letter carrier, and while returning from his trip he and Jett met in front of the courthouse and a difficulty ensued, in which Hoback was seriously cut several times, after which he shot Jett, killing him instantly.

Hoback will probably ask for a change of venue at the next trial, which is set for the April term of the court.

SHOOTING MATCH.

Richmond Military Team Defeated in Fredericksburg.

FREDERICKSBURG, VA., February 22.—Major C. B. Bossieux, Capt. J. H. Stone, Lieutenant E. M. Hardy, Lieutenant R. E. Norvell and Sergeant-Major Carrington of Richmond, arrived here today and in a shooting contest this afternoon with a team of five men of the Washington Guards, composed of Capt. M. B. Rowe, Lieutenant Larkin and Balfusett, Sergeant Leaville and Private Puget, were defeated by a score of 15 to 15.

Private Rowe, who shot against Major Bossieux, made a score of 15 to the major's 9.

Self-Confessed Forger.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
NORFOLK, VA., February 22.—H. P. Henshaw, who has been working as a brakeman on the Norfolk and Western Railroad, to-day gave himself up to the police, declaring that he was guilty of forging the name of his brother-in-law to a paper by which he obtained \$3, and declaring that he wanted to be sent back to his home in Tennessee. He was 26 years old. He was committed to jail until February 27th so that Chief Boush might communicate with the Tazewell authorities.

Women Not Implicated.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
ROANOKE, VA., February 22.—There are no new developments in the Trayham murder mystery. The police have run down all the suspicious reports about women without results, and are firmly convinced that the murderer was a man. The City Council has been called to meet tomorrow to take action on offering a reward of \$1,000 for the apprehension of the murderer. Commonwealth's Attorney Perkins said that he will supplement any reward offered by the city.

Schooner Ashore.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
NORFOLK, VA., February 22.—The three-masted schooner Ida B. Gibson, bound from James River, Va., North, lumber-laden, was driven ashore in last night's coast storm at North Beach, on the Maryland coast, fifteen miles south of Delaware Breakwater. Her crew is safe and the vessel is in a fair condition. The Gibson is owned at Bethel, Del. The news was received here by the Herritt & Chapman Wrecking Company.

Still a Sick Man.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
BOYNTON, VA., February 22.—The condition of the Rev. Frank Stringfellow, pastor of St. James' Church, is unchanged. He is still confined to the house at the home of his son-in-law, Rev. Mr. Barr, of Norfolk, and is not well enough to return to his home in this place. He is suffering with an acute attack of rheumatism.

Stolen Horse Recovered.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
MITCHELLS, VA., February 22.—Mr. W. A. Taliaferro, of Rapidan, had a valuable horse stolen from his stables, February 14th. He had hand bills distributed and soon heard that his horse was in the hands of a liveryman at Louisa, to whom the thief had sold him. Mr. Taliaferro recovered the horse, but no clue to the guilty party has been found.

FIREMAN SHOT FROM THE BUSHES

Other Trainmen Have Been Fired Upon From the Same Vicinity.

THE BANQUET OF THE BLUES

Senator Daniel Lamb to Attend, and Captain Lamb Presents the Flags.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
NORFOLK, VA., February 22.—Fireman N. E. Warren, on an extra Norfolk and Southern train from Edenton, N. C., to Berkley yard, was shot from the bushes, near Pasquotank bridge. The ball took effect in the back of his head, taking away a part of his neck. The wounded man received medical attention and was removed to his home in Berkley. His assailant is unknown, and it is reported that other trains on the same road have been fired upon recently.

BANQUET OF THE BLUES.

United States Senator John W. Daniel was unable to attend the Norfolk Light Artillery Blues' seventy-eighth anniversary banquet at the Algonquin Hotel to-night, and the toast to which he expected to respond, "Pro Patria," was assigned to former Governor William E. Cameron. Congressman John Lamb, of Richmond, presented the Blues' battery its old headquarters marker, which was taken by the Federal forces at the surrender in 1865. While in the city he is the guest of W. H. Kearfoot, of the battery, whose personal interest and efforts in the movement to secure the return of the flag to the Blues were successful in obtaining the order of Governor Swanson that make possible the interesting feature of the anniversary banquet.

This morning at sunrise the special detail appointed by Captain Keeling fired a salute of seventy-eight minute guns at the Chesapeake and Ohio wharf, one gun for each of the battery's existence. The company was organized in 1828.

NEWPORT NEWS FAILURE.

George M. Richter and his son, of Newport News, filed a petition in bankruptcy in the United States Court to-day. They have been doing business in Washington Avenue at Twenty-ninth Street under the name of George M. Richter Company. The schedule filed shows assets to the amount of \$12,219.40 and debts to the amount of \$27,218.15.

AT THE UNIVERSITY.

St. Clair McKelway Charms Large Audience in New Hall.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA., February 22.—Washington's birthday was fittingly observed at the University of Virginia. The beautiful auditorium of Madison Hall, the splendid Young Men's Christian Association building, was crowded with students having a half a day holiday. Professors and ladies and gentlemen from the city and the university; a number of persons left being unable to get in at all.

The orator of the occasion, was the Mr. St. Clair McKelway, the well-known House of Representatives. He was accompanied to the platform by a number of the faculty of the University, among them were Professor Heath Dabney, W. M. Lick, Doctor John Stages Davis, A. H. Buckmaster and President Alderson, who introduced the speaker.

While the address was delivered from manuscript and closely followed the original composition, the speaker was followed with deep interest, and the end of the speech came with reluctance to the audience. It was the man behind the manuscript that gave force. The sentiments were all noble, and commanded the ready assent of the audience. He was always readily responded to the happy expression of an elevating thought. In addition to this, the orator enlivened his discourse by frequent sallies of wit which were graciously received and keenly enjoyed.

The treatment with which the address began of the traditional story of "Washington and his little hatchet," was of the highest interest, and most evident enjoyment to the audience. Mr. McKelway was frequently interrupted by hearty applause, and once, when some sentiment about Abraham Lincoln, who was eulogized as the noblest product and the most clement specimen of American life, the speaker seemed touched by the generosity of Southern audience.

When the speech was closed, there was great and long continued applause, the orator graciously arising to "bow his thanks to the audience. It was a great address, and it is safe to say the speaker will carry away with him the most pleasing impressions of the night.

Mr. McKelway is accompanied by his wife, with whom he is the guest of Dr. and Mrs. Buckmaster.

CHESTERFIELD COURT.

Judge Watson Withholds Decision on Interesting Case.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
CHESTERFIELD, C. H., VA., February 22.—Argument to set aside the order of the Chesterfield supervisors in declaring boundary lines of tracts of land equivalent to lawful fencing in Wintercock election district was heard to-day in the Circuit Court. Judge Watson reserved his decision until next week. A motion to re-instate the old fence law and declare that the law had not been complied with in the proceedings was brought about in the existing conditions was brought about in the defense of W. H. Fowkes on his appeal for being fined for hunting on unenclosed land.

Most of the other districts in the county favor the "no fence" law on the ground that cattle when not allowed to run at large give far better results in milk, besides contributing to the fertility of the soil. A new trial in the case of Beasley Lozon vs. Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company and set aside the jury's award of \$10,000, will be argued to-morrow.

Mrs. R. B. Scott, of Fairmount, is visiting in Richmond.

Miss Edna Coghill is being treated by Dr. Ragland for malarial fever in mild form.

OFFICER SUSPENDED.

Suffolk Policeman Makes Too Brutal Use of His Club.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
SUFFOLK, VA., February 22.—In a prosecution instituted by Joseph Burton, a young white man, of Norfolk, who was severely clubbed by Patrolman W. J. Walls, of Suffolk, a decision to-day was reached by Mayor Kilby and the police commissioners. The commissioners have no power to dismiss an officer, but they suspended him until the March meeting of the council, which will take final action.

This is the first time a local policeman

has been suspended for the indiscriminate use of his night-stick.

Indignation was aroused on account of injuries inflicted on Burton.

IN FREDERICKSBURG.

Masonic Celebration by Washington's Old Lodge.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
FREDERICKSBURG, VA., Feb. 22.—To-day was observed in this city by a greater extent than usual for Washington's birthday. The banks were closed, the city postoffice kept Sunday hours, the Washington Guards had a target practice, and the Fredericksburg Gun Club had a shooting contest. To-night the Masons of the city, in conformity with their annual custom, gave an entertainment in their lodge rooms in honor of Washington's birthday. George Washington was made a Mason by this lodge, and the little on which he was obligated is still one of the valued relics of the order.

The lodge has many other relics, which are always objects of interest to Masons and visitors. The occasion to-night was unusually enjoyable. One pleasant feature was the presence of ladies, each Mason being entitled to bring one.

The rooms of the lodge were filled to their capacity, and an interesting programme was successfully carried out. This consisted of instrumental music by the Washington Guards, an able address by Rev. Dr. R. J. McBratney, beautiful songs were rendered by Mrs. A. T. Embrey, Mrs. A. P. Rowe, Miss Mattie Quinn and Miss Flora Mason. At the conclusion of the programme the dining-room was thrown open, and an elegant banquet was served.

FREIGHT TRAIN DERAILED

Six Cars of Coal Overturned Near Saxe Early Yesterday.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
SAXE, VA., February 22.—An extra freight train, passing here about 2 o'clock this morning, had seven cars derailed one and a half miles south of here. It was a solid train of fifteen coaches of coal. Four of the cars were turned over, tearing up the track for more than a quarter of a mile. Conductor Grimer and Engineer Jewett were in charge of the train.

A wrecking force was on the scene early this morning, and the track was cleared by 2 o'clock. All the passengers and mail on trains Nos. 11, 12, 7 and 8 had to be transferred.

No one was seriously hurt, although the conductor and flagman in the caboose of the freight were a little shaken up by the car being turned up on its side.

AGED LADY INJURED.

Henry Tipton Acquitted for Lack of Evidence.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
GATE CITY, VA., February 22.—Mrs. Malvina Pierson, an aged lady of Gate City, fell in her yard yesterday afternoon and broke her thigh. She is suffering intensely. She is the mother of Squire W. A. Pierson, a prominent citizen of Clinchport.

Henry Tipton, the young man arrested and placed under bond two weeks ago on the charge of dynamiting the residences of Lewis McDavall and John Tipton, was given a preliminary hearing Monday and acquitted. The evidence against him was not sufficient to warrant his being bound over to court.

HORSE SHOW FIRE.

Locomotive Spark Sets Fire to Buildings at Charlottesville.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA., Feb. 22.—A fire this afternoon at the grounds of the Albemarle Horse Show Association destroyed sixty old box stalls and a considerable portion of the fence, entailing a loss of about fifteen hundred dollars. Five hundred dollars. The stables caught fire in a dozen places, but the flames were extinguished by the Louisville fire department. The fire originated from a spark from a Southern Railway train.

Motorman Discharged.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
LYNCHBURG, VA., February 22.—Motorman W. H. Puckett, who was in charge of the street car which ran over and killed Miss Malinda West, the 90-year-old widow of a local citizen, and was in the police court to-day on the formal charge of murder. A number of witnesses testified, all showing the motorman did everything possible to avert the accident, and the motorman was discharged by the mayor.

Rev. E. P. Powell's Petition.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
GREEN BAY, VA., February 22.—The report in Monday's paper regarding Rev. E. P. Powell, who was reported here circulating a petition for the continuance of the Meherin dispensary, should have read for the discontinuance of the dispensary.

PRISON SENTENCE FOR A VIRGINIAN

An Immense Limestone Cliff Slides From Its Base.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
OSBORNS GAP, VA., February 21.—James G. Hynton, proprietor of the Hotel Fairview, the leading hostelry at Clintwood, has been sentenced to three years' imprisonment in the Kentucky penitentiary, from Potosi, Mo. Hynton became entangled in a timber deal in which between \$1,000 and \$5,000 were involved, and the table were turned against him.

A huge limestone cliff has rolled out from its erstwhile resting place, on the north side of the Highland Mountain. The great mass rolled some hundreds of yards, leaving ruin in its track.

BEST GRANULATED SUGAR

4 Cts. 4 Lb.

SATURDAY ONLY

To advertise our Famous 37c Teas and Fresh Roasted Coffees, we will sell the Best Granulated Sugar at 4 cents pound, Saturday of this week. No more than 4 pounds to a customer. Sold only with Tea or Coffee.

Best Teas, ALL 37 Cts. KINDS 37 Cts.

HEROLD, 423 North Sixth Street

THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONERS

Of Three States Examine

The Penn Mutual Life Insurance Co.

The Insurance Departments of Pennsylvania, Massachusetts and Wisconsin, after a Rigid Examination Made at the Request of the Board of Trustees of the Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company, Officially Unite in a Report, Showing the Following:

The Company Has More Surplus Than It Claims. Investments of the Highest Order. Death Claims Paid on Receipt of Proof of Loss. New Business Procured With Fidelity to the Interests of Policyholders. The Company is Purely Mutual—Having No Capital Stock. Trustees are Elected by the Policyholders. Charter Prohibits Proxy Voting. Officers are Elected by the Trustees. Trustees Exercise Intelligent and Faithful Supervision Over the Company's Business.

Complete Report and the Fifty-Eighth Annual Statement Furnished on Request.

CUNNINGHAM HALL, General Agent,

1117 Main Street, Richmond, Va.

CAPTAIN R. S. PARKS SUFFERS A COLLAPSE

Stricken With Weakness While Arguing a Murder Case.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
LURAY, VA., February 22.—Captain R. S. Parks, senior counsel for Lester Ruffner, now on trial in the Circuit Court of Page county, for the attempted murder of his cousin, David Ruffner, suffered a collapse while in the midst of a powerful argument for the prisoner at a late hour this evening. He was about half done his argument when he suddenly gave way and a physician was summoned, when he had to be removed from the courtroom.

The day was devoted to testimony by the defense, and rebuttal by the prosecution.

Captain Parks, when stricken, was following the argument of Colonel R. F. Leedy another counsel for the prisoner. Major E. J. Armstrong opened the case for the State. Commonwealth Attorney Keyser will close the argument for the State to-night.

Ruffner was on the stand for about three hours, and gave in detail how he shot his uncle Isaac Ruffner and attempted killing the dead man's son, David Ruffner, while the three were fox-hunting in the Massanutten Mountains in this county, Sunday November 26th.

POLICY-HOLDERS NOT PROTECTED

(Continued from First Page.)

It is feared that proceedings inimical to its interests might be taken if those who could initiate them were not appeased.

The committee report contains a full statement of loans made to E. H. Harriman and Kuhn, Loeb and Company by the Equitable. The payment of \$30,000 a year to Senator Dewey by the Equitable, and the fact that the company was not warranted, the testimony as to the services rendered by Senator Dewey not appearing to be sufficient for such payment. The committee also sets forth that it does not appear what service was rendered by former Senator Hill, who was paid \$5,000 a year. In justice to him, the committee says it was not able to get his testimony on this subject, as he was too ill to appear.

The committee finds that, in spite of the irregularities shown, there is no reason to question the solvency of the Mutual Life Insurance Company, the New York Life Insurance Company, nor the Equitable Life Assurance Society.

RAP CONTRIBUTIONS TO POLITICIANS

Committee Considers Nothing Disclosed More Censurable Than Subsidizing.

The report says in part: "Contributions by insurance corporations for political purposes should be strictly forbidden. Neither executive officers nor directors should be allowed to use the moneys paid for purposes of insurance in support of political candidates or platforms. The dubious methods taken to conceal the payments of this sort are confessions of their illicit character. They illustrate the manner in which the executive officers have treated the funds of the company virtually as their own, abusing their power to disburse them without proper accounting. Whether made for the purpose of supporting political views or with the desire to obtain protection for the corporation, these contributions have been wholly unjustifiable. In the one case, executive officers have sought to impose their political views upon a constituency of divergent convictions, and in the other they have been guilty of a serious offense against public morals. The frank admission that moneys have been obtained for use in State campaigns upon the expectation that candidates thus aided in their election, would support the interests of the companies, has exposed both those who solicited the contributions and those who made them to serve and just condemnation. The committee recommends the passage of an unequivocal and drastic measure to remedy this evil. Not only should it be expressly prohibited and treated as a waste of corporate moneys, but any officer, director or agent, making, authorizing or consenting to any such contribution should be guilty of a misdemeanor and the prohibition should be extended

to all corporate contributions of this character.

Subsidizing is Serious.

"Nothing disclosed by the investigation deserves more serious attention than the systematic efforts of the large insurance companies to control a large part of the legislation of the State. They have been organized into an offensive and defensive alliance to procure or to prevent the passage of laws affecting not only insurance, but a great variety of important interests to which, through subsidiary companies, or through the connections of their officers, they have become related. Their operations have extended beyond the State and the country has been divided into districts so that each company might perform conveniently its share of the work. Enormous sums have been expended in the successful carrying out of their purposes. The result has been a widespread conviction that large portions of this money have been dishonestly used.

The pernicious activities of corporate agents in matters of legislation demand that the present freedom of lobbying should be restricted. They have brought suspicion upon important proceedings of the Legislature and have exposed its members to consequent assault.

"An effort should be made to strike at the root of the evil by requiring, under proper penalties, full publicity with regard to moneys expended in connection with matters before the Legislature. Corporations should be required to keep accounts and vouchers, in which all such payments should be fully detailed, and reported for, and an adequate statement regarding them should form a part of such reports as may be required."

Want New Boards

One of the most important of the laws regulating mutual companies, and recommended by the investigating committee, looks to the giving to policyholders of an opportunity to elect entirely new boards of directors as soon as the provisions of such a law can be made applicable. To that end the committee recommends a special act providing for the expiration of the terms of office of existing directors of such companies on the fifteenth day of November next, and that the annual meetings, which would otherwise be held at an earlier date should be postponed to that time. In this way it would be possible for lists of policyholders to be filed under the statute, for nominations to be made and for the policyholders to cast their votes in person, by proxy or by mail, as they may desire. All existing proxies should be declared void, so that no proxies should be voted at such elections other than those voted by the policyholders themselves.

The committee also recommends that the superintendent of insurance, who should be directed to appoint inspectors of elections and see that it is conducted according to law. The new boards of directors should divide themselves into three classes, so that thereafter one-half of the board may be elected annually, and errors in management promptly corrected. As the annual election in one of these companies would otherwise take place in April, it is important that this special act should be passed immediately.

Legitimate Expenses.

As to expenses the committee says: "By the limitation of their new business, the three great companies will be able very largely to diminish their agency expenses. This also relates to the smaller companies to a marked degree of the competition to which they have hitherto been subjected. Some limitation of the expense in getting business is imperatively required; otherwise there is little reason to doubt that there will be a continuation of the present extravagant methods."

The committee expresses disapproval of deferred dividends, saying: "There is no reason why the dividend should not be annually declared. The deferred dividend plan is to be supported, if at all, upon the ground that there should be no interference with freedom of contract. But in this matter freedom of contract should yield to important public policy. Of all the reforms suggested by the committee, nothing, it is believed, is more imperatively demanded than that the companies should be compelled to exhibit the results of their management by annual accounting."

He Made Sure.

A story is told of the Sudan railway which shows patient literalness. To an official, there came the telegram from an outlying station: "Station master has died. Shall I bury him?" The reply was sent: "Yes, bury station master. But please make sure he is really dead before you do so." In due time came back the message: "Have buried station master. Made sure he was dead by hitting him twice on the head with a fish plate." There was perfect assurance that there had been no premature burial.

THE ALFALFA SPECIAL WAS WELL RECEIVED

Slate Near the Surface Prevents Sowing of This Crop.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
MANASSAS, VA., February 22.—The agricultural train or Alfalfa special, which left Charlottesville this morning at 8:30 o'clock, arrived at Manassas at 4:30 o'clock this afternoon, after having made stops at Somerset, Culpeper, Rapidan, Remington, Calverton, Nokesville. Superintendent of Agriculture George W. Koiner, reported good meetings at all of the stopping places. A very large and interested crowd met the train here and upon its arrival were invited into the coaches.

The talks on Alfalfa were both interesting and instructive. There are many dairymen in this section and they were particularly interested and frequently asked questions concerning the growing of Alfalfa.

The speakers could not recommend the sowing of Alfalfa in this particular section owing to the fact that slate is so near the surface. The special will leave here at 8 o'clock to-morrow morning on a trip through the Valley.

NOISY RECEPTION FOR BATTLESHIP TEXAS

New Orleans Carnival Season Opens Under Protection of Uncle Sam's Guns.

(By Associated Press.)

NEW ORLEANS, February 21.—Although there have already been half a dozen balls by the various carnival societies, the popular celebration of the carnival of 1906 was ushered in to-night with the parade of the Knights of Momus, ideal weather marking the occasion.

Railroad traffic has been abnormally heavy into New Orleans during the month and the hotels are already crowded. A noisy reception was given the battleship Texas, which arrived today in command of Captain G. A. Bicknell, and with Admiral P. W. Dickens on board. The torpedo boats Dupont and Porter had already arrived.

Momus to-night celebrated his thirty-sixth entry into the city with a pageant of seventeen floats, choosing "Leaves From Oriental Literature" for his subject. The tableaux reproduced the folk lore stories of India, China and Japan, some of the latter taken from the writings of Lafcadio Hearn. A ball at the French Opera House followed the pageant.